

## POST SHORTS

### Recycling schedule



The recycling pickup for Wednesday, Feb. 19, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

### BEP presents African American folk music

The APG Black Employment Program will present Folk Music of African Americans, Feb. 27, featuring Devonna B. Rowe, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810.

For more information, call Jackie Pitts, 410-436-2771, Brenda Clayton, 410-436-3856 or Nancy Coleman-Jones, 410-306-1386.

### RAB meeting, Feb. 27

The Installation Restoration Program will hold the Restoration Advisory Board meeting on Feb. 27, 7 to 9:45 p.m., at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road.

Topics will include updates on the O-Field Study Area, Operations Security discussion and the Lauderick Creek CWM Removal Action. Board meetings are open to the public; all are invited.

For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

### Firewood for sale

In accordance with APG Regulation 420-11, wood is available at a cost of \$10 per pick-up truckload, standard one-half ton truck.

Permits to buy wood are good for seven days, or until an order is filled, whichever comes first. Permits will be issued on a first-come-first-served basis.

Only down wood is available; most from trees removed from the 2100 block in the Edgewood Area. Some wood is available in the Aberdeen Area, near the deer shack, building 5504.

For more information, call Roger Stoflet, 410-306-1128.

### ADAPT class

Army Drug and Alcohol Prevention Training, or ADAPT, will be held Feb. 24 to 28, Monday through Thursday, 5 to 7 p.m. and Friday, 5 to 9 p.m. Class is limited.

For more information or to make a reservation, call Troy L. Denson at 410-278-3137.

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# Eagle count reaches record high

## Last year's count doubles

Sonya P. Reynolds  
APG News

At daybreak on Jan. 8, a cold, sunny day, a team of wildlife biologists and environmentalists took to the skies above Aberdeen Proving Ground to perform the National Wildlife Federation's annual survey of eagles. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources is the statewide coordinator for the survey.

Departing from Phillips Army Airfield, Jim Pottie, Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, along with Jim Bailey, biologist, DSHE, and MDDNR Biologist Ron Norris headed to the APG shoreline in a UH-1 helicopter to count APG eagles and determine their age.

This, the 25th anniversary flight, had one of the original surveyor's on board, Joe Ondek, the former environmental chief for the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center, and a new ATC representative, Ed Griger.

"We have worked successfully with our APG mission elements for years to get the best results for the birds and the mission," Norris said.

With only one day designated to conduct the survey, Pottie noted doing it before the sun rises is the best time.

"We do the survey before sunup when eagles are concentrated and looking for food along the shorelines of APG," Pottie said.

He added that the eagle count last year was 119 and that it has increased this year with a record high of 250 birds.

He continued saying weather plays a very important factor in the number of birds present. These factors, Pottie said, include resident birds that never move, birds that relocate to the south during the summer and birds that go north during the winter.

"If the weather is warm, it holds southern birds in this area. If the weather turns bad, they end up here at the same time," Pottie said.

See EAGLE, page 14



Photo by JOE ONDEK  
Aberdeen Proving Ground biologists report a record high eagle count in January. The survey tallied 250 eagles, 131 more than last year.

# State Department issues worldwide caution to all Americans

Kathleen T. Rhem  
American Forces Press Service

U.S. citizens around the world are at a heightened risk of terrorist attacks, according to a State Department caution issued Feb. 6.

"Terrorist actions may include, but are not limited to, suicide operations, assassinations or kidnappings," the alert states. It goes on to warn "nonconventional weapons" may be used. The term typically refers to chemical or biological weapons or booby traps.

The warning doesn't speak to specific locations or dates, but urges an overall heightened awareness. U.S. officials have repeatedly voiced concerns that terrorists might seek

"softer" overseas targets because locations in the United States beefed up security considerably after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

This alert specifically mentions schools and places of worship as possible targets. It urges Americans to be wary of locations where large numbers of foreigners gather.

"Americans should increase their security awareness when they are at such locations, avoid them, or switch to other locations where Americans in large numbers generally do not congregate," the alert states.

It lists reasonable precautions Americans abroad should take:

See CAUTION, page 5

# 30th annual gospel night set at APG

E.C. Starnes  
OC&S

African-American Heritage Month will be celebrated at Aberdeen Proving Ground as the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools hosts the 30th Annual Wilbert Davis Gospel Night at 4 p.m., Feb. 23.

Admission is free and open to the public at the APG Post Theater.

The theme for this year's observance is "The Souls of Black Folk: Centennial

Reflections" and will feature several local gospel groups and personalities.

The program features soloist Robert M. Thomas Jr. from Philadelphia, Pa.; the Refuge Temple Combined Choir, Sisters Singing with Anointed Voices and the Gospel Tabernacle

Deliverance Choir from Aberdeen; soloist Lou Anne Maddox from Gunpowder, Md.; soloist LaShawna Wright from Oxen Hill, Md.; the

See GOSPEL, page 8

## Watch card

### Do observe and report:

- Unusual or suspicious activity or suspected surveillance.

- Unusual questions or requests for information relating to capabilities, limitations, or operational information.

- Unusual vehicles operating in or around the installation.

- Unusual phone calls, messages, or e-mails.

- Unusual contacts on or off post.

- Unusual aerial activity near or around installation.

- Any possible compromise of sensitive information.

### Do not:

- Discuss any aspect of military operations or planning.

- Discuss military capabilities or limitations.

- Discuss force protection measures, capabilities, or posture.

- Disclose any information related to unit deployments.

**Report any suspicious activity immediately to APG Police:**

Aberdeen Area 410-306-2222  
Edgewood Area 410-436-2222  
Your call may save lives!

# Scouts give 'bear' hugs to emergency responders

Story and photo by  
Yvonne Johnson  
APG News

The girls of Brownie Troop 54 and Junior Troop 2025 offered warm and fuzzy hugs to the community in the form of Kibby bears, their latest community service project.

Inspired by the desire to lend a helping hand to emergency personnel, the scouts donated more than 100 Kibby bears to emergency responders on the Edgewood and Aberdeen areas of Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Upper Chesapeake Hospital pediatric and family birthing wards. Emergency responders and medical staffers use stuffed animals, such as the Kibby bear, to calm ill or injured children.

Led by scout leaders Cyndi Boseman and Lorene Hutchinson and assistant leaders Tracy Bush and Teresa Salgado, the Brownies and Juniors raised \$250 wrapping holiday gifts at the Post Exchange to fund the project.

Hutchinson said what started as a small idea blossomed into a satisfying project.

"This was a great learning

tool. It taught them how an idea can grow, what you can accomplish when you work together, and it helped the community," Hutchinson said.

She added her thanks to the parents who "support all of our

endeavors."

With the funds, they were able to purchase 135 bears she said. In addition, the company donated a gift bear for each child involved in the project.

Bozeman credited her

daughter, Junior Shelby bozeman, and Brownie Rachel Hutchinson with promoting the distribution plans for the bears.

"Shelby wanted to give

See HUG, page 5



Paramedic John Williamson happily accepts dozens of Kibby bears from the members of Girl Scout Troop 2025 and Brownie Troop 54 during a donation ceremony of the fuzzy stress relievers at the Edgewood Area fire station, Jan. 31. Manufactured by the Kibby Company, the bears are used to comfort hospitalized children and ill or injured victims being transported by emergency responders.



A hydraulically operated crane lifts a section of U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center's Grit Trough enclosure into place as part of an Ultimate Building Machine training session at ATC. ATC employees, Aberdeen Test Support Services contractors, and Directorate of Installation Operations employees participated in the training.

## Permanent enclosure assists in ATC testing

### ATC constructs a permanent covering for the Accelerated Corrosion Complex's grit trough

Story and photo by  
**Susan Hagan**  
ATC/ATSS

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center utilized MIC Industries' Ultimate Building Machine in order to construct a permanent covering for the grit trough, part of ATC's Accelerated Corrosion Complex.

The complex, located on the Munson Test Course, provides aggressive controlled exposure of corrosive conditions to land systems to hasten the weathering process and determine susceptibility to the environments. A 22-year corrosion assessment can be completed in 200 plus days.

The grit trough is 75 feet long and 14 feet wide and contains an eight-inch slurry that is splashed on the undercarriage of the test item as it passes through the trough.

The grit trough needs a permanent enclosure to reduce fluctuations in the contents. Without an enclosure, weather can strengthen or dilute the solution in the trough, causing undesired variability.

Tent enclosures were tried but proved to lack durability against the weather as well. A lack of funding prevented a traditional enclosure from being erected.

According to Dennis Gross, a member of ATC's Engineering and Facilities Team, the Ultimate Building Machine was selected for the project after looking at the utility, practicality, cost effectiveness, complexity, and the ability to complete the project as part of a UBM training session. ATC has the UBM on loan as a trial and is looking for candidate projects to use for a training session.

"A bonus was the visibility of the project. The site is located on prime real estate," he said.

A team of two training instructors along with employees from various areas of ATC, Aberdeen Test Support Services contractors and Directorate of Installation Operations employees participated in the training exercise.

Gross said that ATC is looking to get the resources and assets in line to do other UBM projects.

## Test to open stateside space-A air travel to military families

American Forces Press Service

A one-year test starting April 1 will permit space-A available air travel within the continental United States by family members who accompany their military sponsors.

Defense transportation officials said dependents of active-duty members and military retirees will be eligible. Their travel priority during the test will be the same as their sponsor's. The test ends March 31, 2004.

Current regulations allow dependents to travel space-A with sponsors to, from and between overseas points, but prohibit their travel point-to-point within the continental United States. Active duty and retired military members already have space-A privileges stateside and overseas.

To register for space-A travel, active-duty sponsors must be on leave or a pass and remain in that status while awaiting travel and through the entire travel period.

Retirees may sign up 60 days in advance but not before the test begins April 1.

(Generally, space-A is the seats left on military aircraft after official duty travelers and cargo are accommodated. Space-A travelers are assigned various seating categories. For instance, active duty members on emergency travel receive a higher priority than leisure travelers. The Air Force's system is the best-known, but all of the services offer space-A using their own rules and policies.)

For more information on the space-A privilege, its rules, registration process, travel procedures, tips, and dozens of frequently asked questions, visit the Air Force Air Mobility Command space-A Web site at [amcpubscott.af.mil/SpaceA/pacea.htm](http://amcpubscott.af.mil/SpaceA/pacea.htm). (See excerpts below.)

(Adapted from a news release from the Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.)

## Excerpts from space-A Web site

Information concerning space-A policy may be obtained by sending an e-mail message to [amc-igt@scott.af.mil](mailto:amc-igt@scott.af.mil)

Do not send e-mail requesting flight information. Individuals must contact terminals directly.

The following space-A related information is available online at [http://amcpubscott.af.mil/SpaceA/24\\_203.htm#11.%20AMC%20Passenger%20Operations](http://amcpubscott.af.mil/SpaceA/24_203.htm#11.%20AMC%20Passenger%20Operations):

Tips for Traveling Space A Registration

Continental United States (CONUS) AMC Terminals Eligibility Commercial Gateways Baggage Immigration and Border Clearance Requirements

Selection Process AMC Passenger Operations (includes mailing addresses/phone numbers/ etc.)

Space Available (Space A) Travel Questions and Answers

Space Available Base Telephone Numbers

## 2003 cutoffs dates for submission of purchase requests

Directorate of Contracting

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Directorate of Contracting of the Army Contracting Agency has established the fiscal year 2003 cutoffs dates for submission of purchase requests.

Early customer support in identifying and submitting purchase requests by or before the dates shown below greatly enhances the ability of the APG Directorate of Contracting to meet customer needs. Early planning and coordination remain the keys to a successful year-end.

The following schedule should be used for the submission of purchase requests for FY 2003 and maintenance for FY 2004:

- Noncommercial Items over \$100,000 - May 15\*
- Noncommercial Items between \$2,500 and \$100,000 - June 15

- Commercial items between \$100,000 and \$5 million - June 15

- Short-of-Award over \$2,500 - June 15
- Commercial Items under \$100,000 - Aug. 15

- Maintenance for FY 03 - June 15

\* There may be instances where this date may not be adequate for complex actions. It is therefore required that these actions be coordinated with the branch chief prior to this date.

PD2, the DoD contracting automated system, is used at Aberdeen Proving Ground. Although the APG DOC PR submission schedule has been increased to permit additional time to process actions through this system, requestors are advised to submit their year-end requirements as early as is reasonable to minimize the possibility of funds going unobligated at year end.

Submission of requests after the scheduled dates will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Refer questions to Joyce Roberts, Contracting Division, [joyce.roberts@sbc-com.apgea.army.mil](mailto:joyce.roberts@sbc-com.apgea.army.mil), 410-278-0869.

More specific questions should be referred as follows:

**Facilities Branch:** Repair, alteration, construction, sale and removal of excess real property, services for base operations functions (including, but not limited to, utilities privatization, custodial, refuse, underground utilities locating, etc.), equipment-in-place, and facilities. Call or e-mail Martha Mitchem at [martha.mitchem@sbc-com.apgea.army.mil](mailto:martha.mitchem@sbc-com.apgea.army.mil), 410-278-2362.

**Services Branch:** General and specialized services for mission support; range testing of vehicles, equipment, ammunition; lease, rental,

and maintenance of equipment; full food services; environmental services; equipment-in-place, and other base operations services. Call or e-mail Shirley Kelly, [shirley.kelly@sbc-com.apgea.army.mil](mailto:shirley.kelly@sbc-com.apgea.army.mil), 410-278-0854.

**Technology Branch:** ADP equipment; word processing equipment; software; general, specialized, and test equipment; instrumentation; supplies; and, ADP maintenance and services. Call or e-mail Ginny Corona at [ginny.corona@sbc-com.apgea.army.mil](mailto:ginny.corona@sbc-com.apgea.army.mil), 410-278-0883.

The ACA APG DOC has established a Web site at: <http://www.apg.army.mil/aca/>. The fiscal year cutoff dates for submission of purchase requests are located at this site under "Announcements, News, and Notes."

## APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM, APG, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

Editorial content is prepared, edited and approved by the APG Public Affairs Office. The APG News is printed by Homestead Publishing Company, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with APG. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army or Homestead Publishing Company of the products or services advertised.

For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 324, Second Floor, AMSSB-GIM, APG, MD 21005-5001; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; fax it to 410-278-2570; or e-mail it to [editor@usag.apg.army.mil](mailto:editor@usag.apg.army.mil).

Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

### Staff

APG Commander ..... Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg  
Public Affairs Officer ..... George P. Mercer  
Editor ..... Debi Horne  
Editorial Assistant ..... Marguerite Towson  
Contract Photojournalists ..... Yvonne Johnson  
..... Sonya P. Reynolds  
Contract Graphic Designer and Web Site Designer ..... Diane Burrier  
Web site ..... [www.apgnews.apg.army.mil](http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil)

## ARMY NASCAR DRIVER INTERVIEWED



Courtesy ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Driver Jerry Nadeau for the #01 U.S. Army sponsored Pontiac on the NASCAR Winston Cup Series gives an interview about sponsorship to the media in Charlotte, N.C. NASCAR's biggest event of the year is this Sunday's Daytona 500.

## POST SHORTS

### Orientation for newcomers scheduled

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Community Information Forum, formerly APG Newcomer Orientation, will be held at the Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, Feb. 27, 1 to 3 p.m. All military and civilian personnel, retirees and their family members are invited to attend.

More than 55 representatives of support agencies/organizations will be present to discuss information on their activities. Give-a-ways will be available and door prizes awarded.

For more information, call Godofredo (Fred) Posadas, Family Well-Being program manager, Army Community Service, 278-2453/7474.

### MCSC to donate funds

The Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses Club will donate funds to organizations and charities this spring. Groups interested in placing a request for funds should do so in writing. Include name of organization requesting funds, the manner in which the funds will be used, list of other fund raising efforts, and a contact person for the organization (name, address and telephone number).

Requests must be post-marked by April 1. Submit requests to: MCSC Welfare Chairperson, #3 Plumb Point Loop, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005, or e-mail [thetorswb@aol.com](mailto:thetorswb@aol.com).

### Kirk offers classes

The following classes will be held in the Preventive Medicine conference room (Room A-12), located on the first floor at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic. For more information and to register for classes, call Preventive Medi-

cine, 410-278-1964.

#### Asthma education

Class is scheduled noon to 2 p.m. March 4, and includes an overview of asthma; triggers that may cause attacks or symptoms; preventing attacks; use of peak flow meter and MDI/spacer and developing a personal asthma action plan.

All TRICARE beneficiaries with a recent or long-term diagnosis of asthma and parent(s) or sponsor(s) of an asthmatic child are eligible to attend.

#### Healthy eating class

Classes to discuss weight control through healthy eating are scheduled 7 to 9 p.m. March 12, 19 and 26. All TRICARE beneficiaries with a desire to learn more about healthy eating and parent(s) or sponsor(s) of children with healthy eating concerns are eligible to attend.

Participants should bring a calculator to class.

### APG MWR holds job fair

Morale, Welfare and Recreation will hold a job fair at the Aberdeen Sheraton Four Points Hotel, March 6, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Positions available include sports, fitness, golf, recreation, youth services and more.

For more information, call 410-278-4497.

### Reduction of veterinary services

For the next six to eight weeks, the APG Veterinary Treatment Facility will be experiencing limited availability of a veterinarian. The VTF will not be able to publish scheduled appointments.

Anyone wishing an appointment with the clinic may phone the clinic at 410-278-3911/4575. However, appointment dates will be known only on a short notice basis.

The clinic maintains a wait-

ing list, and as appointment dates become available, the clinic will call persons on that list on a first-come, first-served basis.

Pet owners should be prepared to visit a civilian veterinarian during this period.

Personnel who need health certificates for PCS only should call the clinic for help in locating another VTF to obtain the certificate.

The VTF apologizes for any inconvenience

### Thrift Shop to disburse funds

The Edgewood Area Thrift Shop will be accepting requests for donations from schools, service organizations and military units through March 1.

The request should include the name of the organization, point of contact, address, telephone number, amount of the request and specific details on what the funds will be used for.

Mail requests to Diane Payne at 3013 Cascade Drive, Abingdon, MD 21009 or e-mail her at [kdjpayne@earthlink.net](mailto:kdjpayne@earthlink.net).

Funds will be distributed in late spring. For more information, call Colleen Newing, 410-676-8583.

### MCSC accepting scholarship applications

The Military and Civilian Spouses Club is accepting applications for scholarships until April 1, 2003. Applications are available at Web site [www.apgmcsc.org](http://www.apgmcsc.org).

For more information, call Katie McDonald, MCSC Publicity, at 410-273-7477.

### Retiree ID cards

To get retiree ID cards, the employee/retiree should contact their servicing personnel assistant.

### Fact of the Week



*American cars and light trucks alone account for more fossil fuel CO2 emissions than the total nationwide emissions of all but three other countries in the world.*

- American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

# Commissaries, Fischer House offer scholarships for military children

[www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com)

Two great military traditions are working with industry to bring military families the Scholarships for Military Children Program, the Defense Commissary Agency and The Fisher House Foundation.

Commissaries are a vital part of the quality of life offered to service members and their families.

The Fisher House Foundation provides "a home away from home" for families experiencing a personal medical crisis and is one of the premiere quality of life organizations supporting military families.

The Fisher House Foundation administers the Scholarships for Military Children Program. The program was created to recognize the contributions and sacrifices military families make to ensure the readiness of the fighting force and to celebrate the role of the commissary in the military community.

It's the intent of the program that a "Defense Commissary Agency/ Fisher House Foundation Scholars" scholarship funded through contributions will be awarded for each commissary operated by the Defense Commissary Agency.

This program is independently administered by Scholarship Managers, or SM, a non-profit scholarship service organization that has no connection to the Defense Commissary Agency or the Fisher House Foundation. SM is solely responsible for the selection of scholarship recipients and its decisions are final.

Applicants can apply at only one commissary. Applicants who submit an application at more than one commissary will be disqualified from consideration for a scholarship.

If mailing the application, it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure it is received at a commissary by close of business at the store Feb. 21. (A Feb. 21, 2003 postmark is not acceptable). See the "locations" link at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) for a store list.

The applicant's sponsor must be a member of, or retired from, the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force or Coast Guard. Children of civilian employees, U.S. Public Health Service Officers, or NOAA are ineligible to receive a scholarship (unless they are otherwise qualified as identified on page 1 of the application).

Applicants must provide their permanent home address, not their college address, on the front page of the application. It is the applicant's sole responsibility to notify SM of any change of address.

Applicants who wish to be notified that SM has received their application materials must enclose a pre-addressed, pre-stamped postcard. Do not send an envelope, it will not be returned.

Names of scholarship recipients will be announced on or about April 25. Check [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) for a list of winners.

SM will notify only the recipients by letter. The non-recipients will not be notified.

Should you have any questions about the Scholarships for Military Children application, call Scholarship Managers at 856-573-9400, FAX 856-573-9799 or e-mail Scholarship Managers at [scholarshipmanagers@erols.com](mailto:scholarshipmanagers@erols.com).

## Scholarship applications available to help feds with tuition

**Tanya N. Ballard**  
Government Executive

Applications for scholarships from the Federal Employee Education and Assistance Program are now available.

FEEA, a charity that helps federal employees and their families in need, designed the scholarships to help federal employees or their dependents pay for college tuition. The scholarships are merit-based, and applicants must carry at least a 3.0 grade point average. Applicants may be high school seniors, full-time college students or graduate students. Federal employee applicants may be part-time students, but must have at least three years of civilian federal or postal service.

FEEA has awarded more than \$3 million in college scholarships to federal and postal employees and their family members during the past 16 years. Scholarships range from \$300 to \$1,500 per student, depending on the amount of federal employee donations received by FEEA through the Combined Federal Campaign.

Potential applicants can find more information and download an application at FEEA's Web site, <http://www.feea.org/scholarships.shtml>.

Applications must be postmarked by March 29, 2002, and awards will be announced in August in time for the start of the academic year.

To receive an application by mail, send a self-addressed, stamped business-size envelope to FEEA Scholarships, 8441 W. Bowles Ave., Suite 200, Littleton, CO. 80123-9501.

# Health

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## Introducing the new medical staff at KUSAHC

Story and photo by  
**Sonya P. Reynolds**  
APG News

Medical professionals have joined Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic with the common goal of implementing a more patient friendly environment.

### Lt. Col. Irvin Carty

Lt. Col. Irvin Carty came to Aberdeen Proving Ground in July filling the slot as the chief of Primary Care at KUSAHC.

Prior to his military career, Carty earned a degree in education from the University of Delaware in 1980 and went on to teach school. After a few years, he decided to take his career in another direction by enrolling in a nursing program where he earned his degree in 1985 also from the University of Delaware.

Shortly after, Carty joined the military, adding more than 17 years of training and experience as a family nurse practitioner in the Army to his list of accomplishments.

In 1997, he furthered his education by earning a degree as a family nurse practitioner from the University of Austin.

With pre-meditated goals in mind of providing greater coordination of health care procedures, Carty shares his plans for KUSAHC.

"I have goals that I want to accomplish and there is a lot yet to be done," Carty said. "This is a great teaching environment and a wonderful staff as compared to a large medical center."

Part of the accomplishments that Carty wants to see come to pass includes creating not only a treating facility, but a health educating venue as well.

"I want to provide education to the patients as well as care," Carty said. "I want to have a staff that cares about the overall being of the patients, and that includes educating them on their illnesses and anything associated with the illness."

Carty said he would like to steer away from the traditional operations of a medical facility and moving towards a more personable one.

"Patients get tired of being moved around two, three, or four times and waiting all day to be seen," he said. "I want a staff that will spend time with the patients and give them resources about the problems that they came in for."

Carty added that since his arrival he has felt nothing shy of warmth and the eagerness of other medical personal to help accomplish his goals.

He said he was excited about his new role and the staff that he works with.

"I wouldn't trade it for the world, I enjoy it and I have fun here," Carty said. "I come here smiling every morning and by the end of the day, I'm leaving smiling."

### Dr. Robert A. Barthel

Dr. Robert A. Barthel joined the staff at KUSAHC as the new chief of occupational medicine leaving his previous position as a Medical Director at ProWellness Health Services/CorpOHS.

Rearing from a family of doctors and medical professionals and not satisfied with his career as a navy corps man, Barthel left the military and began his education in 1971 at Harford Community College and continued at the University of Maryland in 1973, earning a bachelor's degree in biology.

Barthel furthered his education by earning a master's in health science in environmental health from The Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health in 1977. During the process, he worked as a project director for Environmental Measurements, Inc.

Aiming to educate himself even more, Barthel applied to medical school and was accepted at the University of Maryland, where he later graduated in 1981. He completed his residency in a family practice in 1984.

As Barthel joins a military setting again, this time as a civilian, he added that he is ready for the change and the challenge.

"Joining Kirk is exciting because it offers a wide variety of challenges [and] the diverse roles or diverse tasks that APG complexes are involved with, especially with the new world we're in with the concerns about bio-terrorism," Barthel said.

He continued by saying that for many years he noticed a lot of changes taking place in his field and felt that many more were forth coming. As a result, Barthel noted that the opportunity could not have come at a better time.

He said the two things that brought him back to the military setting in occupational medicine is that in primary and urgent care, the staff is over worked in order to make a profit for the organization, and fear of the organization going bankrupt because there isn't enough work. Barthel added that after seeing many occupational medical clinics fold over the last several years, he'd rather go with an organization that is more stable.

Barthel said he wanted to get away from the 'run of the mill' type settings associated with primary and urgent care on the outside as well as become more secure in his financial setting.

"There is nothing wrong with hard work but it could be very boring if you're just running a mill, pumping patients through and not knowing what tomorrow holds," Barthel said.

He said that he has no regrets in his decision to come back to a military setting, adding that the financial pressure in the civilian world is such that physicians tend to get installed in the position and begin to turn patients like running a mill too. Barthel noted that it is not a habit that he wanted to fall into and he did not perceive it happening in his new role.

"The exception being the educational institutions, which can be a little more like the military end of things, and can present a wider range of options here verses the typical civilian job," Barthel said.

### Dr. Barbara W. Siskind

Dr. Barbara W. Siskind, a resident of Columbia, Md., joined KUSACH as chief of Pediatrics last summer. A native of Maryland, she earned a bachelor's of science degree at the University of Maryland, College Park, in 1969 and a doctorate at the University of Maryland School of Medicine at Baltimore in 1973. After completing medical school, Siskind did her pediatric internship, junior residency and senior residency at the University of Maryland Hospital.

In August 1976, Siskind began practicing pediatrics as a Department of Army civilian at what was then the Kimbrough Army Community Hospital at Fort George G. Meade and said she enjoyed caring for a diverse popu-

See **DOCTORS**, page 13

## Hug

From front page

them to the paramedics because when she rode in an ambulance several years ago, one was given to her and it made her feel safer," Bozeman said, and Rachel was given one during a hospital stay and still treasures it."

The groups coordinated with EA paramedic John Williamson to present the bears to emergency responders at the EA Fire Station, Jan. 31.

Williamson said donating bears is a tradition that began with veteran auxiliary groups and that this was the station's first donation from scouts.

"They caught us by surprise," said Aberdeen Area EMS chief Ray Campbell. "These bears can have a big impact. We really appreciate it."

"It was a heck of an accomplishment," Williamson said of the donation, adding that the bears would be kept in the ambulances to be utilized on calls involving children.

"This is an important outreach tool for emergency services. We like to get the word out that we are not just here, but we care also."

The bear's value could not be overstated, said paramedic Scott Manglass.

"Essentially, part of what we have to do is separate a sick or injured child from its mother," Manglass said. "These bears help relieve the anxiety that causes. When you have to calm down an asthmatic child, having one on hand is always a plus."

He added that the bears also have a calming effect on adults, particularly the elderly. Many of the scouts said they were pleased with their accomplishment.

"The most important thing is we are helping out other people," said 9-year old Stephanie Bozeman.

"I liked everything about it," Christine Qabar, 7, said about the project, "mostly because it makes me feel good to help others."

"It was a cool accomplishment and a very good idea," said Shelby Bozeman, an 11-year old fifth-grader. "Doing good like this makes me feel warm and fuzzy."

## Caution

From front page

- Keep vital documents in one readily accessible location and copies of these documents in another.

- Ensure passports and visas are valid, and register with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

- Keep an inventory of household effects.

In regions where political unrest is common, keep an adequate supply of food, water and necessary medications in your home.

Keep your car in good working order and the gas tank full.

The alert urges Americans to monitor local news and keep abreast of the political situation in their region.

# Community Notes

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 14 & 15**  
Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054 Disco will be held every Friday and Saturday Night, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Admission is \$5. Participants must be 21 with proper ID. For more information, call 410-272-3444.

**FRIDAY THROUGH MONDAY  
FEBRUARY 14 TO 17  
SKI TRIP TO NEW YORK**  
Club Beyond and the Chaplains Activities is sponsoring a high school ski retreat to Ski Windham, New York. Ski or snowboard for two days with high school students from USMA West Point and Aberdeen Proving Ground. Suggested donation is \$210, not including rentals.

For more information, call Alan Leavell at the Aberdeen Area Chapel, 410-278-4333.

**SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 15  
BLACK HISTORY MONTH BREAKFAST**  
St. James A.M.E. Church School Members, 615 Green Street, Havre de Grace, will host its annual Black History Month Breakfast 9 to 11 a.m. The menu includes pancakes, waffles, eggs, fried potatoes, bacon, sausage-gravy, biscuits, orange juice, coffee and tea. Children and adults will play musical instruments, recite poetry, read, perform skits, etc. For more information, call 410-939-2267.

**COMMANDER'S STEAK NIGHT**  
Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054 presents Commander's Steak Night, noon until. Cost is \$12 and includes steak, baked potato, salad, fried cabbage and a roll. For more information, call 410-272-3444.

**SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 16  
OLDIES BUT GOODIES NIGHT**  
Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054 hosts Oldies But Goodies every Sunday night 8 p.m. to midnight for the mature crowd. There is no cover charge. For more information, call 410-272-3444.

**MONDAY  
FEBRUARY 17  
VFW POST 6054 FISH FRY**  
Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054 Fish Fry will be held from noon until. A dinner costs \$7; a sandwich costs \$5. For more information, call 410-272-3444.

**THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY 20  
BLACK HISTORY PRESENTATION**  
Edgewood Elementary School will present a Black History Production at 2 p.m. Activities include vocal and musical selections by students, skits, black facts and more. Special guest Attorney James E. Henson Sr. will give a presentation on his great uncle, Matthew A. Henson. Matthew A. Henson was a co-discoverer of the North Pole with Commander Robert E. Peary in 1909. Henson was born in Charles County, Md., Aug. 8, 1866, and was a companion to Peary for over 20 years. Snow date is Feb. 21.

RSVP to Donna Lewis, 410-612-1540, by Feb. 18.

**VFW POST 6054 PRESENTS KARAOKE**  
Charlton-Miller VFW Post 6054 presents karaoke featuring TC & Company from 8 p.m. to midnight. There is no cover charge. For more information, call 410-272-3444.

**FRIDAY  
FEBRUARY 21  
CHICKEN AND FISH DINNER**  
The women of St. James A.M.E. Church, 615 Green Street, Havre de Grace, will sell chicken and fish dinners for \$6 from 10:30 a.m. until dinners are sold out. The proceeds will benefit the Church's Annual Woman's Day program scheduled for March 23. To place orders, call 410-939-2267.

**MONDAY  
FEBRUARY 24  
WAITING FAMILIES SUPPORT GROUP**  
Army Community Service is sponsoring Waiting Families Support Group for family members whose sponsors are on extended temporary duty or on an unaccompanied tour stateside or over-

## MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50 Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard

**ANTWONE FISHER**  
Friday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m.  
Starring: Derek Luke, Denzel Washington



Antwone is ordered to see a Navy psychiatrist to learn to control the anger impulses that cause him to fight with shipmates. His therapy inspires him to seek out the family that abandoned him as a child. (Rated PG-13)

**PINOCCHIO (FREE ADMISSION)**  
Saturday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m.  
Starring: Roberto Benigni, Nicoletta Braschi



Pinocchio the wooden puppet has come to life and wants to become a real boy. Despite guidance from the Blue Fairy and the love of his father Gepetto, his curious spirit leads him into one wild adventure after another. (Rated G)



**CATCH ME IF YOU CAN**  
Saturday, Feb. 15, 9 p.m.  
Starring: Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hanks

Based on the true story of Frank Abagnale Jr., a successful con artist, who manages to pass himself off as several identities with FBI agent Carl Hanratty hot on his trail. Hanratty tracks down and catches the young con artist who successfully impersonated an airline pilot, doctor, assistant attorney general and history professor, cashing more than \$2.5 million in fraudulent checks in 26 countries. Because of his abilities in forgery, the FBI worked out a deal with the prison system after he served five years and hired him to work for them. (Rated PG-13)

The Post Theater will be closed Friday, Feb. 21, and Saturday, Feb. 22, due to preparations for the annual OC&S' Wilbur Davis Gospel Night.

## OC & S LIBRARY

**Armoured Fighting Vehicles** by Philip Trehwhitt  
**The Costs of Conflict** by Andrew Scobell  
**Jane's How to Fly and Fight in the F-117A**  
**STEALTH Fighter** by Jon Lake  
**Combined Arms in Battle Since 1939**  
**Rifles and Machine Guns** by Melvin M. Johnson  
**Memoir of a Cold War Soldier** by Richard E. Mack

The Ordnance Center & Schools Library, located in the basement of building 3071, is open Monday, noon to 4:15 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. and Friday, noon to 4:15 p.m. For more information, call 410-278-4991.

seas. The support group will meet the fourth Monday of the month from 7 to 8 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 2754, Rodman Road.

To arrange for child-care, call in advance, space is limited. For more information, call Cheryl Harris, relocation assistant, at 410-278-7474.

**THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY 27  
AFRICAN AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC**  
The APG Black Employment Program will present Folk Music of African Americans, presented by Devonna B. Rowe, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810. For more information, call Jackie Pitts, 410-436-2771, Brenda Clayton, 410-436-3856 or Nancy Coleman-Jones, 410-306-

1386.  
**FRIDAY  
FEBRUARY 28  
USO-METRO JOB FAIR**  
The USO of Metropolitan Washington and the Joint Employment Transition Services, or JETS, will co-host a job fair, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Spates Community Club, Fort Myer, Va. More than 50 companies with full or part-time positions will attend. Job seekers can talk to representatives from high tech corporations, law enforcement agencies, security companies, temporary agencies, financial service companies and more. The fair is free and open to all members of the armed services, their family members, retired military and DoD and Coast Guard civilian personnel. For more information, call Dale Jovero or Dawn Ruth, 703-696-2552.

# ATC plans to establish 'Limited Liability Company' by FY 04



Photo courtesy of ATC

U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center provides support to other government agencies and industry. It developed an Aggressive Driver System, pictured above, to help Maryland state troopers identify drivers who pose potential traffic hazards.

## Mike Cast DTC

The Aberdeen Test Center is seeking to form a profitable partnership with private industry and academic institutions by establishing a 'limited liability company,' or LLC.

This type of business partnership is becoming increasingly popular because it enables the partners to pool their resources, business capital and diverse expertise to provide products and services, while limiting the financial liability of each partner for civil lawsuits that might result from the work it does.

ATC is planning to form a partnership known as the National Testing Training and Technology Company, said John "Jack" Roth, ATC's driving force behind the efforts to establish the company. Roth expects the test center to select partners and set up the company by fiscal year 2004, provided the Army and Congress complete authorizing legislation.

Operation of the company will then be a five-year pilot program that Roth expects to be a "radical departure" from business as usual. Although the test center will seek to generate new business and income through the new company, it will continue to conduct its "core business" of testing developmental weapon systems and equipment in support of military program managers.

The Secretary of the Army has approved a recommendation from the Defense Department's Business Initiatives Council to test the LLC concept and has asked for fiscal year 2004 enabling legislation. Dr. John Foulkes, the director of the Army's Test and Evaluation Management Agency, is the Pentagon champion for this program.

The process for creating the company began two-and-a-half years ago, Roth said. Its impetus was Section 246 of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1999. The bill included authority to waive DoD policies, procedures and regulations not required by law so that government agencies could operate more like businesses. Section 245 of the fiscal year 2000 bill authorized DoD to explore ways to improve operational efficiency. Its purpose was to enable participating organizations to attract a workforce with the

appropriate mix of skills and experience, and to compete effectively in hiring "the finest scientific talent."

Philip Coyle, the Pentagon's former head of testing and evaluation, funded ATC to study a wide variety of innovative business practices, and recommend the best ways to meet the letter and spirit of Section 246. ATC conducted the study over the past year through a cooperative research and development agreement with Drexel University of Philadelphia and Batelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio, that regularly does work for the Army. Forming a limited liability company turned out to be the most promising idea, Roth explained.

Only 25 percent of ATC's funding comes directly from Army appropriations while the other 75 percent comes from test customers, Roth added. ATC is not only faced with the challenge of maintaining a multi-disciplined, flexible workforce that can meet the high-tech needs of a transforming Army, but also obtaining the funding necessary to keep its test facilities current with state-of-the-art test technologies. ATC's share of any profits made by the company will go to infrastructure improvement at the discretion of the commander.

As well as benefiting its partners by reducing liability and pooling expertise and resources, the company could help maintain ATC's test facilities in a "hot" condition for military test programs by

using some of the test facilities more regularly and providing testers with more practice and experience, Roth said.

Roth hastened to add that the workforce at ATC should not be concerned about the proposal because it will augment the center's existing workload rather than replace it. It will also drive down indirect costs.

To explain the type of work the company might undertake, he used the example of a military system beset by technical problems too difficult for the manufacturer or the Army to solve without outside expertise. Testers and evaluators are good at pinpointing problems with systems, he said, but they may not be able to provide the solutions. The combined resources and talents of the National Testing Training and Technology Company, on the other hand, could deliver solutions, and in less time than is now standard.

"Members will be preferred providers to each other," Roth said. "They won't have to use contracts, but will be able to give each other work orders. It will eliminate a lot of coordination time. The company will function as a private business and follow laws governing businesses as opposed to regulations aimed at the military."

The company will provide services for non-military programs, provided ATC can still support its core mission. It will market its capabilities through trade shows, technical symposia and technical magazines, Roth added.

ATC will solicit for members by advertising a "sources sought synopsis" on the Interactive Business Opportunities web page. Interested businesses will receive a briefing and tour. They will be required to submit written and oral proposals that will be rated by a disinterested panel of testing professionals.

The panel will recommend membership to the selection authority, who will make the final decisions on who, and how many members, will be selected. Members, including ATC, will be required to contribute \$150,000 per year for a maximum of three years to pay for LLC operating costs. After that the LLC should be self-sustaining.

The commander of ATC will be the Army chair for the company, and others in similar leadership positions at member organizations will be included on the board, which will set company policy, Roth said. He said the selection process should take about nine months. The LLC staff will include a managing director, a technical director, administrative support and people who provide contract and legal support. This staff will be hired through an employment agency.

# MWR • Morale, Recreation & Welfare

## Activities

### President's Day sale

Ruggles Pro Shop President's Day Sale continues through Feb. 17. Receive 75 percent off a select group of men's and ladies gloves, and 20 percent off entire stock of golf merchandise (excludes shoes, balls and previous markdowns).

Ruggles offers a variety of grips. Prices range from \$3 to \$7 each. Grip replacement work is complimentary with purchase of grips.

### Chili cook-off

The first-ever MWR Chili Cook Off will be held Feb. 15 at Ruggles Golf Course. All types of chili are welcome, from spicy to sweet. Participants must be willing to share their recipe and provide a quart sample. Cook off starts at 11 a.m. and the winning chili will be served at the Chili Open Golf Tournament, Feb. 22 and 23.

### Chili Open Golf Tournament

The Chili Open, using a seven-club format, will be held rain or shine, Feb. 22 and 23. Select any seven clubs to use for both days of the tournament. All players must walk, but pull carts are permitted. There will be ladies, men's, and a senior division. Cost is \$35. Register by Feb. 20 at MWR Registration or Ruggles Golf Course. For more information, call Tom Green at 410-278-9452 or e-mail tom.green@usag.apg.army.mil.

### 'Luck O' Irish' Basket Bingo

Get those bingo blotters ready. MWR is bringing Basket Bingo back on Feb. 21 at the Aberdeen Fire Hall. There will be famous name baskets and more. Food, drinks and baked goods will be available for purchase. Doors open at 6 p.m. and bingo starts at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10. Purchase tickets at MWR Registration. For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

### Introduction to the Short Game

This one-hour class will help golfers improve their short game by teaching club selection and stroke. The class will take place Feb. 22 at Ruggles Golf Course from 11 a.m. to noon and costs \$10. Register by Feb. 14 at MWR Registration, Ruggles Golf Course, or register online at www.apgmwr.com. For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

### Basic Principals of Massage Therapy for Couples

Enjoy learning the benefits, techniques, and uses for massage therapy in the daily rituals of self-care. This workshop is designed specifically for couples to promote and practice massage as a tool for the maintenance of good health in a partnership and for the body. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a pillowcase, bath towel, sleeping bag or blanket and pillow. Class will be held on March 1 at the AA Recreation Center, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$60 per couple. Register by Feb. 22 at MWR Registration. For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

### Self Defense Workshop

This six-week series of classes teaches the basics of self-defense in real life situations by using martial arts fundamentals. These techniques are designed to help cope with any aggressor, regardless of size or strength. Class will be held in the AA Fitness Center every Monday and Wednesday, 6 to 7 p.m., starting Feb. 24. Register by Feb. 18 at MWR Registration. Cost is \$60. For more information, call Stacie Umbarger at 410-278-3931 or e-mail stacie.umbarger@usag.apg.army.mil.

## Permits available for turkey season

Turkey hunting season will be held on post April 18 through May 23 and a special youth hunt April 12.

Due to security requirements, participation will be limited to active duty military, civilian employees, multi-year contractors on the essential personnel roster, and Reserve National Guard members on active duty and family members. Guests

are not permitted.

There is a season limit of 30 birds, and the season will be suspended if that number is reached. Hunting will occur only at the Aberdeen Area.

A single-season upland game/turkey license is \$25 plus a \$1 administrative fee.

Hunters should apply for their permits now through the Outdoor Recreation

Office in building 240. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 7 a.m. to noon. The office is closed on Wednesday and holidays.

For more information, call MWR's Recreation Outdoor Office at 410-278-4124.

## LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

NEW - The library has over 700 award winning films available for checkout, 90 percent in DVD format. A few of the DVD titles include:



**Forever** by Pete Hamill

Cormac O'Connor arrives in New York City from Ireland in 1741 and remains forever. He has been given the gift of immortality, but only if he never leaves the island of Manhattan. Through Cormac's eyes, readers watch the city transform from the burgeoning settlement to the pulsing metropolis of today.



**Short & Tall Tales; Moose County Legends** collected by James Mackintosh Quilligan by Lilian Jackson Braun



**Feathered Serpent: a novel of the Mexican Conquest** by Colin Falconer

**The Bone Vault** by Linda Fairstein



**The Shadow of God: a novel of war and faith** by Anthony Goodman

**The Future Homemakers of America** by Laurie Graham

**The King of Torts** by John Grisham



**The Arraignment** by Steve Martini

**The River Road** by Karen Osborn

**War of Honor** by David Weber

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., and Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Edgewood Area library is open Tuesday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. For information, call 410-436-3589.

To receive a complete listing of the library's new materials via e-mail and also reserve items electronically, call the library at 410-278-3417.

## APG SCHOOL LIAISON

### BOOKTALK

For parents of elementary and middle school students, here are some keys for developing a passion for reading for children:

- Read aloud to children as often as possible. No matter how old, children love to hear the human voice and the drama of a good story told. Children can see and hear the passion for reading and make the connection that they will hopefully try to mirror.
- Get kids involved with book clubs such as Reading Circles, as much and as often as possible, but especially during the summer when school is out. The idea is to continue, without significant gaps, reading sustainability and improvement through a 12-month reading and discussion program at the appropriate age level.
- Help get children involved in library activities, both at school and in the community.
- In small groups, encourage children to discuss the story and main characters.
- Have children write about what they read. Teach them how to keep a journal.
- Get children to volunteer to help at book fairs.
- Arrange to bring in various authors of children's books and have them talk to the children.
- Use the Internet to find appropriate sites that encourage reading.
- For children who have not yet developed a love for reading, find fun and interesting "incentive" reading programs.
- Set aside two or three nights a week at dinner where parents and children talk about a book the child is reading or has just finished.
- When calling grandparents or other family relatives or even friends, tell them about the books children have read.
- Set an example by getting involved in reading and book activities, and, more importantly, have two or three evenings a week in the home for quiet time to read a book.
- Make reading a year round activity in the home.
- Together, set reading goals for the summer and holidays.

### BOOKS CHILDREN WILL TALK ABOUT

Here is a list of books from the National Education Association children will want to read and talk about:

Books about the family: 'Attoboy, Sam,' by Lois Lowrey (grades 3 to 6). 'Aunt Flossie's Hat's,' by Elizabeth Fitzgerald (grades K to 4); 'Emma's Yucky Brother,' by Jean Little (grades K to 4); 'Getting Through Thursday,' by Melrose Cooper (grades K to 3); 'How Tia Lola Came To Visit/Stay,' by Julia Alvarez (grades 4 to 6); 'Visiting Day,' by Jacqueline Woodson (grades K to 4).and 'The Yang Family Series,' by Lensey Namioka (grades 3 to 6).

Books that inspire kids to change their world: 'Edwina Victorious,' by Susan Bonner (grades 4 to 6); 'Hoot,' by Carl Hiaasen (grades 4 to 6); 'Seed Folk,' by Paul Fleishman (grades 4 to 6); 'Silver Package: An Appalachian Christmas Story,' by Cynthia Rylant (grades 3 to 4); 'Something Beautiful,' by Sharon Dennis (grades K to 3); 'Tomas and the Library Lady,' by Pat Mora (grades K to 4). and 'Yo, Yes?' by Chris Raschka (grades K to 4).

### MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION 'READ-UP ON READING'

Parents and students can check out MCEC's reading resource Web site, [www.MilitaryChild.org/reading-corner.cfm](http://www.MilitaryChild.org/reading-corner.cfm), for such topics as Gotta Look! Great Starting Point; Reading Standards and Assessments; Reading Resource Links on the Internet; Fun Stuff for Kids (and Moms and Dads); Heavy Duty Research Data Base and School Reading Programs.

### MCEC LINKS

MCEC's Web site also has links to other important resources for the family including: schools and families; scholarships; distance education; virtual schools; home schooling; military links; military organizations, and sites devoted to the military family.

## Gospel

From front page

Mount Zion Male Chorus from Havre de Grace; the Aberdeen Middle School/High School Gospel Choir, and the Aberdeen Proving Ground Gospel Service.

Gospel Night initiated in 1973 by then Maj. Wilbert Davis. He personally nurtured the musical celebration of Black History Month even after he retired from the U.S. Army.

In tribute to his personal dedication and devotion to the project Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, the Chief of Ordnance, named the annual event in his honor on Feb. 9, 1992.

Access to APG for the performance is available at the Maryland Boulevard Gate, Route 715. An identification card such as a military or government civilian ID card, or a driver's license is required.

For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Arbel Connor at 410-278-2529.

## First Lady of Gospel to visit APG

Yvonne Johnson  
APG News

The renowned First Lady of Gospel, Shirley Caesar is bringing her energetic style to Aberdeen Proving Ground for the First Annual Gospel Concert, "Celebrating the Gospel in Song," March 8 in the Post Theater. Tickets are \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door.

Coordinated by Morale Welfare and Recreation program manager, Earlene Allen, the show features Caesar and the Caesar Singers. Allen said sales are brisk for the popular gospel star.

"Seating is very limited. Anyone wanting tickets should

call for reservations right away as they are going fast," Allen said.

Tickets may be purchased over the phone by credit card, she added.

In addition, those without government identification cards may call in advance to have their name placed on a roster that will be on hand at the gate, Allen said.

"This is just a time saver for convenience sake," she said.

For tickets, call MWR Registration at 410-278-4907 or visit building 3326. For more information, call Earlene Allen at 410-278-3854 or email her at earlene.allen@usag.apg.army.mil.

## APG CHILD, YOUTH SERVICES

### SCHOOL AGE/MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICES SUMMER PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

The Aberdeen and Edgewood Summer Program will run for eight weeks, June 23 through Aug. 15, Monday through

Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. You may sign up for the weeks that fit your schedule. There will be no program on July 4.

For questions or further information, call the Outreach Services Office at 410-278-7571/7479

## APG closing announcements

If the installation is closed, is experiencing a delay in opening or if liberal leave is in effect due to weather or other emergency situations, check for postings on the local television and radio stations (listed below), WAPG-TV Channel 3 (on Aberdeen Proving Ground), or call 410-278-SNOW (7669). A recorded telephone message will contain updated information and should begin at about 5 a.m.

Announcements about federal offices in the greater Baltimore metropolitan area do not apply to APG; listen for those that name APG specifically.

For general information, call 410-278-1147, the APG Public Affairs Office.

The radio and television stations are:

Station	Frequency	Location
WAMD	AM 970	Aberdeen
WXCX	FM 103.7	Havre de Grace
WBAL	AM 1090	Baltimore
WIYY	FM 97.9	Baltimore
WPOC	FM 93.1	Baltimore
WDEL	AM 1150	Wilmington, Del.
WSTW	FM 93.7	Wilmington, Del.
WSBA	AM 910	York, Pa.
WARM	FM 103.3	York, Pa.
WROZ	FM 101.3	Lancaster, Pa.
WBAL-TV	Channel 11	Baltimore
WMAR-TV	Channel 2	Baltimore
WBFF-TV	Channel 45	Baltimore
WJZ-TV	Channel 13	Baltimore



# Army News



## Reservists, Guardsmen need to know their medical benefits

**Rudi Williams**  
American Forces Press Service

One of the biggest communications problems the reserve components have is ensuring that when their members are called to active duty they know the importance of enrolling in TRICARE at their mobilization or activation stations.

That's what Air Force Reserve Col. Kathleen Woody said Jan. 28 to a roomful of reservists and National Guardsmen from all branches, including the Coast Guard, during the 2003 National TRICARE Conference here.

"TRICARE is a shared responsibility between the Department of Defense, the services and the service members," said Woody, director of medical readiness and programs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs.

She said reserve component personnel should enroll in TRICARE at their mobilization or activation site because they may be deployed overseas, but their enrollment stays stateside.

"It's very important that we don't get our people overseas trying to enroll in TRICARE Prime because they won't be able to do it," said Woody, a nurse and full-time reservist.

The only exception to an enrollment for a reserve member overseas would be Individual Ready Reserve members. They are actually assigned to the overseas unit.

There are two aspects to reserve health care - the personnel office that identifies the eligibility, and TRICARE, which manages the medical portion, Woody noted. Communications about both have to take place, she said. The contingency operation should be identified on members' orders because if it isn't coded correctly into the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, the reservists won't be reflected as eligible for the Transitional Assistance Management Program when they separate from active duty, she added.

### Updating DEERS

Family members could be denied care if DEERS information is incorrect or incomplete. Guard and Reserve members and their families aren't always aware of their benefits, she said. "When there's a change in the member's status, there's a change in TRICARE benefits."

Woody gave the audience some points to stress when members are released from active duty after supporting a contingency operation: "Members and their families must actively enroll in TRICARE Prime during the transitional health care period," the colonel noted. "If they were enrolled during their active duty period, DEERS will automatically trigger disenrollment and the member would have to re-enroll."

### Dental benefits

Space-available dental care is limited for reservists and non-existent for family members, she pointed out.

"TRICARE dental care is not part of the transitional health-care program," Woody said. "Families are eligible for it, but at the full premium rate when the member is released from active duty."

The monthly premium for the dental program is \$19.08 for one family member or \$47.69 for a family enrollment. If the reserve sponsor is called to active duty, the premiums fall to the active duty rates of \$7.63 per month for one family member or \$19.08 for multiple family members.

### Knowing the benefits

Woody said Reserve and National Guard members and their family members need to be educated regularly to ensure they know what their benefits are and how to obtain them. For one thing, she said, 70 percent of reserve members don't live near a

military medical facility, where health care would be readily available.

"Education has to be an ongoing process and we're working with the reserve components, the members and family support offices to try to give the member information before they're mobilized, at the mobilization station, and post-mobilization," she said.

"We've developed a brochure that gives a broad brush overview of what Reserve members benefits are when they're activated and what the family members benefits are," Woody noted. "TRICARE has worked aggressively to develop a reserve component TRICARE Web page that addresses issues unique to Reserve members. It also has a link to our Web site, which has a mobilization guide."

### Changes

Stephen E. Isaacson, a healthcare program specialist in the TRICARE Management Activity in Aurora, Colo., told the audience about changes to make health care more accessible and beneficial to families of reservists and guardsmen participating in Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle.

"We waived the deductibles for TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra, as we'd done under Operation Joint Endeavor in Bosnia, to avoid undue financial hardships for reserve component families," Isaacson said.

"We also waived the requirement for nonavailability statements for inpatient care in civilian hospitals when family members of activated reservists live outside a military treatment facility area," he said. "That was done so reservists' families who were already receiving care in the civilian market could continue to get that care and not be forced into a military treatment facility or network provider."

Isaacson also said, "We allowed payment up to 115 percent of the government rate pay table, which is authorized by law for inpatient care in civilian hospitals when family members live outside the MTF area. That was done to ensure access to care, particularly in areas where there are a limited number of providers. We didn't want providers to say, 'We're not going to take you as a patient because TRICARE doesn't pay enough.'"

"There's another very important aspect to their caring coverage when they're deactivated," Isaacson noted. "That's the Transitional Assistance Management Program and the Continued Health Care Benefit Program."

Taking the podium to outline the two programs, Ann N. Fazzini first called reserve health care a misnomer as it relates to TRICARE. Fazzini, a health care program specialist from the TRICARE Management Activity in Aurora, emphasized that reservists are not entitled to TRICARE benefits unless they're on federal active duty status. Once they're activated, they're considered TRICARE Prime enrollees.

The spouses and eligible children of those on orders for more than 30 days are eligible for TRICARE Extra and Standard coverage on the first day of their sponsor's orders, she said. Family members of reservists and guardsmen with orders for 179 days or more may enroll in TRICARE Prime, which charges no pharmacy co-payments at military hospitals or clinics, she added.

Fazzini said the Transitional Assistance Management Program gives TRICARE benefits to certain eligible members separating from active duty and their families. All eligible members now receive 60 or 120 days of transitional care. Prior this recent change, members on active duty who were retained to support a contingency operation only received 30 days of transitional care.

In the past, transitional health care ended if the member was covered by other health insurance. The 2002 National Defense Authorization Act removed that provision and now, those covered by other insurance plans continue their transitional health care. However, the other insurance plan is the primary payer of benefits.

She noted that the Transitional Assistance Management Program was slated to expire on Oct. 1, 2001, but is now a permanent benefit with an effective date of Dec. 28, 2002.

"There are four categories of those eligible from TAMP including reserve component members who are called to active duty in support of a contingency operation," Fazzini noted. "They, and their families, receive health care under the TAMP program when they're released from active duty."

She said the timeframes for transitional health care are 60 days for members separated with less than six years of total active federal military service and 120 days for those with six or more years of federal service. They receive the same TRICARE benefits they received while on active duty, she said.

"There no fee and no premium associated with transitional care," she emphasized. "However, an extra step separating members must take to stay in TRICARE Prime to complete a Prime enrollment form upon separating from active duty. That's because their status is changing from active duty to separating, and the system deletes their Prime enrollment status. The TRICARE Standard and Extra are also available."

Fazzini pointed out that TAMP covers pre-existing conditions. "So if the sponsor is leaving active duty and a family member has an illness, they continue with their health care," she said.

However, she said, the services determine eligibility and provide data to DEERS, which TRICARE contractors check when processing claims.

The second program, the Continued Health Care Benefit Program, kicks in after TAMP expires. CHCBP, created in 1994, covers separating active duty members and their families and also certain former spouses, emancipated children and wards of the court, according to Fazzini.

"Reservists who have used their 60 or 120 days under TAMP can enroll in CHCBP," Fazzini noted. "Unlike TAMP, which doesn't require paying a premium, CHCBP is a premium-based program. The benefits are similar to TRICARE Standard and Extra, but Prime isn't an option."

"Like TRICARE, it requires the use of certified providers, claims submissions and payments and the same reimbursement procedures used in TRICARE Standard," she said. "It's not an inexpensive program. The individual premium is \$933 per quarter. For a family, it's \$1,996 per quarter. Pre-existing conditions are covered."

The coverage period is either for 18 or 36 months, she said. "You have 60 days from the time you lose your TAMP eligibility to enroll in CHCBP, and care is retroactive to the date TAMP ended."

More TRICARE information is available online at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>, or call 1-888-DoD Care (1-888-363-2273). DMDC Support Office/DEERS information is at <http://www.dmhc.osd.mil>, or call, 1-800-538-9552.

Continued Health Care Benefit Program questions can be directed to Humana Health Services at [www.humana-military.com](http://www.humana-military.com), or call 1-800-444-5445.

## MACOM ideas put Army on corporate track

**Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs**  
Army News Service

Department of Defense policy makers decide how funds are spent, but suggestions on how to save money and use personnel more efficiently are coming from the Army's grass-roots levels.

Major commands have submitted 25 to 30 ideas to the Army's Business Initiatives Council — an organization implemented to encourage entrepreneurial thinking.

"One of the reasons the program works is the organization with the idea keeps whatever savings it generates. This is a rock-solid commitment from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and one that is the very foundation of creating the right incentives for the effort," said Craig College, executive director for the Army BIC.

BIC was created by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld last year to encourage the services to emulate the corporate sector's way of doing business.

Decreasing the use of paper airline tickets, leasing installation space to civilians and changing the way advanced initial soldiers are trained are only a handful of initiatives that have been approved for Armywide implementation.

U.S. Army Special Operations Command

has an ongoing program to prevent the Army from being charged when individuals don't turn in unused airline tickets, said David Taylor, the senior analyst for the BIC support team.

"When people receive airline tickets but for some reason have to cancel, it is a cost to the government when those tickets are not returned," Taylor said. "The solution is to require travelers to use e-tickets when possible. When e-ticketing is not available travelers should be required to confirm that the unused tickets have been turned in."

By decreasing the use of paper tickets the Army could save \$10 million to 24 million per year, according to USASOC officials.

The majority of BIC ideas from MACOMS are usually Army-unique because they tend to be sharply focused and more detailed in nature, College said. Most methods for putting DoD on the corporate track come from the Pentagon and require policy changes, he said.

"Getting information from the major commands and from the Pentagon is very effective for the Army," College said. "There are ways to help the field run more efficiently that we are not aware of at the Department of the Army level."

An example of a Pentagon initiated effort is trying to determine the best methods for sharing information among U.S. government offices and foreign government organizations to sup-

port foreign military sales and military equipment loans.

Outside of Pentagon walls, officials are concerned with how to make life easier in their area of the world mainly focusing on processes, weapons systems and training.

Training and Doctrine Command currently has a pilot program in place to change how soldiers at advanced individual training receive instruction. The Assignment Oriented Training pilot is at the U.S. Army Signal School, Fort Gordon, Ga.

The training pilot will provide soldiers with tailored competency-based training, focused on the first unit of assignment, Taylor said. It will reduce time spent in AIT and get soldiers to their first units faster, he added.

TRADOC's pilot is to increase unit readiness and is one example of how not all BIC initiatives are to save millions of dollars, officials said.

"The BIC effort to date is not about saving tremendous amounts of money," College said. "We are certainly trying to find efficiencies, in terms of real-dollar saving, but by and large the effort is focused on becoming more efficient and more effective."

At Aberdeen Proving Ground, the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command is entering into a partnership with industry that will bring funds into the Army and help its partners

save money, Taylor said.

APG will charge industry and academia to use their labs for the testing of weapons systems and clothing development. The advantages are that industry doesn't have to invest in additional facilities, and we are more effectively using available space, Taylor said.

Other MACOM initiatives include: automate military award submission and approval process; outsource the Army penal system and maximize electronic publishing of Army regulations.

The Army took over as the lead agency of BIC April 1 from the Air Force, and passed the lead over to the Navy in October. Since April 1, the Secretary of the Army has approved 23 internally generated initiatives. Of those, 13 will be for Army implementation and 10 were forwarded to DoD for potential DoD-wide use.

"Just because the Army has passed the lead doesn't mean that the field should stop thinking of ways to improve how the Army operates," Taylor said. "Every quarter the Secretary of the Army is briefed on good ideas for his approval."

"This process is not buried in a lot of bureaucracy. We don't spend an excessive amount of time of getting them staffed. We get a good idea, run it up the flagpole, and after it is approved by the Secretary of the Army, it's put into effect. So, every 90 days a new idea is either approved or disapproved."

## Soldiers Radio debuts 'Sergeant's Time'

Army News Service

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley was the guest on the debut program Jan. 21 of "Sergeant's Time," a new show airing every Tuesday on SoldiersRadio.com and the Soldiers Radio Network.

"With the new technology, I think sometimes we don't talk to our soldiers enough," said Tilley, speaking on Soldiers Radio. "A sergeant has to get out and talk to his soldiers ... and understand what's going on with them, to include their family members."

SoldiersRadio.com is using the World Wide Web to help senior enlisted leaders communicate to the

entire Army community with its new 30-minute "Sergeant's Time" show.

In addition to the sergeant major of the Army, guests will include command sergeants major and sergeants major from every part of the Army, according to the show's producer.

"Our goal with 'Sergeant's Time' is twofold," said Staff Sgt. Matt Howard, the show's producer. "First, we want to give our audience a look into the many different commands of our Army, from an enlisted perspective."

"We also want to be a source for professional development of NCOs, and future NCOs. When it comes to leading troops, nobody has more

experience than a sergeant major, and we want to mine that wealth of experience and knowledge."

Tilley was the first guest on "Sergeant's Time." Among the topics he talked about were his recent travels to Southwest Asia, the dangers of complacency in the war on terrorism, and his concerns about the rising number of off-duty accidents.

"Don't rush. Don't speed. Don't get off on a Friday night and try to drive 500 miles," cautioned Tilley. "Part of the responsibility of a non-commissioned officer is to check soldiers."

"It was an honor having Sgt. Maj. Tilley here for the debut," said Sgt.

1st Class Jose Velazquez, NCOIC of Soldiers Radio and Television and the host of "Sergeant's Time."

"He's one of those people that, as soon as he starts speaking, people listen. We hope to have him on the show once a month."

"Sergeant's Time" also allows guests to answer soldiers' questions they've received via e-mail and during their travels.

"You've got to figure for every person who asks a question, there's a bunch of people out there with that same question who didn't have the opportunity to ask it or maybe were afraid to," said Velazquez. "'Sergeant's Time' is a chance for

those questions to be answered for a worldwide audience."

With the first show of "Sergeant's Time" under their belt, the staff of SoldiersRadio.com said they hope "Sergeant's Time" will help share the knowledge and experience of the Army's senior enlisted leaders for years to come.

"Sergeant's Time" airs Tuesday at 9 a.m., 3 p.m., and 9 p.m. Eastern Time on SoldiersRadio.com and the Soldiers Radio Network.

(Editor's note: Information provided by SRTV.)

# Sports

## Lifters put on imPRESSive show



Willie Garris, Company E, 16th Ordnance Battalion, grimaces from the strain of pressing 370 pounds during the intramural bench press competition at Hoyle Gym. With this press, Garris won the military men's 198-pound division.



Chris Pearson spots 230-pounds for USMC's Carl Jacobsen, who arrived at APG one week prior and was participating in his first competition.

Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON

### Basketball update

The following results were reported for intramural basketball for the week ending Feb. 7. Next week is All Star week with games in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas, Feb. 18 to 20. See Sports Shorts for schedule.

#### American Division

##### Results

Feb. 3

HHC 16th, 50; NCOA, 45  
HHC 61st, 44; HST, 36  
HHSB, 50; KUSAHC, 37

Feb. 5

NCOA, 74; HHSB, 40  
HHC 16th, 57; KUSAHC, 50 (4 OT)  
HST, win; 1/246th, forfeit

##### Standings

HHC 16th	5-1
HHC 61st	4-1
HHSB	3-2
NCOA	3-2
KUSAHC	2-3
1/246th	0-4
HST	0-4

#### National Division

##### Results

Feb. 4

Company E 16th, 58; USAF, 44  
USMC, 14; Company B 16th, 69  
Company A 16th, 58; 389th, 28

Feb. 6

Company B 16th, 36; Company A 16th, 32

USAF, 45; USMC, 27  
Company E 16th, 46; Company C 16th, 39

##### Standings

Company B 16th	7-0
Company E 16th	5-1
Company C 16th	4-3
USMC	2-3
Company A 16th	3-4
USAF	1-5
389th	0-5

#### Edgewood Division

##### Results

Feb. 3

TEU, 55; Company A 143rd, 41  
Company A 1/246th, 47; Company C 143rd, 33

Feb. 4

MRICD, 66; TEU, 41  
HHC 143rd, 58; CHPPM, 27

Feb. 6

MRICD, win; CHPPM, forfeit  
Company B 143rd, 64; Company A 1/246th, 60

##### Standings

MRICD	8-0
TEU	5-2
Company A 1/246th	4-2
Company B 143rd	3-2
HHC 143rd	3-3
Company A 143rd	2-3
Company C 143rd	1-5
CHPPM	0-8

## Sports Shorts

### Basketball All Star Tournament

Intramural basketball's All Star week runs Feb. 18 to 20.

The American Division plays the National Division, Feb. 18, 7 p.m. in the AA Athletic Center; the American Division versus the Edgewood Division in Hoyle Gym Feb. 19, 7 p.m.; and the National Division battles the Edgewood Division, Feb. 20, 7 p.m. in the AA Athletic Center.

### Racquetball Tournament

Participants have until Feb. 14 to sign up for

the intramural racquetball tournament that begins Feb. 18. There are six divisions: Military Men's Open, Senior and Master; Military Women; Civilian Men and Civilian Women. There must be at least four participants to form a division. Sign up in the AA Athletic Center or Hoyle Gym.

### All Army application deadlines

All Army sports application deadlines are approaching for the following sports:

Women's Soccer	Feb. 15
Taekwondo	March 14
Triathlon	April 18

## KUSHAC

From page 5

lating of children, including many international adoptees and exceptional family members. She was involved in departmental quality assurance activities, the Hospital Infection Control Committee and the Rabies Board. Additionally, she was a preceptor for general medical officers and pediatric nurse practitioners.

In March 1992, Siskind was offered an opportunity to join Pediatric Associates of Ellicott City, where she cared for children and adolescents with a group of pediatricians and pediatric nurse practitioners. Siskind developed the O.S.H.A. Program and the

International Adoptee Health Care Program for the practice.

In April 2002, although not looking for a change in employment, the chance to resume civilian employment until retirement was appealing. Having prior government experience made the decision to apply for a job at KUSAHC less difficult, despite the potential of a much longer commute.

But she worried about the computerization of medical care, where the private medical care sector has lagged considerably behind the military medical care establishment.

When the job was offered in July 2002, it was with sadness that she resigned from private practice, leaving behind respected colleagues, friends, and beloved patients. But the opportunity to face

new challenges and again care for the military dependents more than compensated for the losses. And the need to deal with one HMO, Tricare Prime, would certainly be a little different than dealing with HMO's and access to care issues in private practice.

Siskind said that it's the love of children that really matters, and not the institution in which one practices.

"I feel very fortunate that I have a profession that I love," Siskind said. "I'm blessed that I chose this career many years ago and it's truly what I still want to do."

And the 55-mile commute has become leisure reading time, thanks to a new audio system from her husband and the books on tape from the Howard County Public Library.

### Bench press results

The following results were reported for the intramural bench press competition held Jan. 25 in Hoyle Gym.

#### Civilian women

##### Heavyweight champion

Tracy Graves, DLES, 165 pounds

##### Lightweight champion

Robin Edie, MWR, 75 pounds

#### Military women

132 pounds

Champion, Martiza Cisneros, NCOA, 95 pounds

Runner-up, Jaime Jackson, HST, 105 pounds

148 pounds

Champion, Anita Shirazi, Company C 16th, 95 pounds

Runner-up, Terri Atkins, HHC 16th, 100 pounds

165 pounds

Champion, Brandi Simmons, NCOA, 85 pounds

Runner-up, Billie Guzzon, Company C 16th, 110 pounds

#### Civilian men

Heavyweight champion, Brian Prediger, CHPPM, 425 pounds

Heavyweight champion, David Diana, TEU, 425 pounds

#### Military men

123 pounds

Champion, Carlos Aragones, 105 pounds

148 pounds

Champion, John Payne, Company B 143rd, 220 pounds

Runner-up, Denson Adams, USAF, 245 pounds

165 pounds

Champion, Jonathan Bridges, Company C 16th, 235 pounds

Runner-up, Mark Sammon, MRICD, 260 pounds

181 pounds

Champion, Edgar Bautista, HHC 61st, 285 pounds

Runner-up, Eugene Seamans, 1/246th, 300 pounds

198 pounds

Champion, Willie Garris, Company E 16th, 370 pounds

Runner-up, Matt Long, HST, 415 pounds

220 pounds

Champion, James Hagle, USMC, 330 pounds

Runner-up, Carroll Collins, 1/246th, 330 pounds

242 pounds

Champion, Eddie Mayner, Company E 16th, 430 pounds

#### Sub-master lightweight

Champion, Anthony King, MDARNG, 250 pounds

Runner-up, David Hester, HHC 16th, 240 pounds

#### Sub-master heavyweight

Champion, Bruce Radcliff, 520th TAML, 405 pounds

Runner-up, Roger Graves, HHC 16th, 325 pounds

#### Master heavyweight

Champion, Aaron Schachte, HHC 143rd, 370 pounds

Runner-up, Carroll Lucas, SBCCOM, 340 pounds

#### Overall best lifter

Male, Matt Long, HST

Female, Jamie Jackson, HST

#### Team awards:

Champion, HST

Runner-up, Company C 16th/USMC



Dr. Barbra Siskind performs physical examination on baby Sarah Arbogast while being held by her mother.

# Commentary

## Remembering the first 20 years

**Capt. Eric Shuler**  
Special contributor

My heroes and my children's heroes have been astronauts. They are the best of the best.

My family and all Americans are saddened by the loss of the seven astronauts on Feb. 1.

Unfortunately, the space shuttle may be a victim of its own success. I remember before the Space Shuttle Program that rocket launches were broadcast on all major networks. Today, it is taken for granted and the missions are not usually front-page news.

I know in my heart that the seven astronauts who sacrificed their lives furthered mankind's knowledge of the earth and space. The seven astronauts would want us to continue the space program.

Have you wondered what the space shuttle astronauts do and see in space? The book "Space Shuttle the First 20 Years" will answer some of these questions. The photography is breath taking and the narration is

from the actual astronauts. Below is my review of the book "Space Shuttle the First 20 Years."

"Space Shuttle the First 20 Years" brings back the magic of space. The photography in this book is superb. The narration of the book is from the astronauts themselves. The astronauts whether they are commander or a payload specialist are down to earth and tell it like it is. One of the astronauts tells how he would look out the window and mentally remember the image. He did this so could always remember the beauty of space.

There is plenty of humor in this book. Reading about the Pepsi and Coca-Cola soda can experiment in space was very humorous. One of the astronauts states, "that we trained for three years on the mission and the Pepsi and Coca-Cola experiment got the most press."

On the mission Senator John Glenn flew, the senior astronauts pretended that he needed a special pass to board for the flight. Glenn

fell for it.

There is sadness in the book when it covers the Challenger explosion. The Challenger accident was a turning point in the space shuttle operations. No longer would NASA or the public think there was anything routine about going up in space. Astronauts no longer just wear a flight suit on takeoff but now must wear their pressure suit.

The accomplishments of the space shuttle crews and NASA are vast. If you look at the photos of the International Space Station you will see what I mean. If you like the space shuttle or space in general this will make a nice addition to your library.

"Space Shuttle the First 20 Years" brings back the excitement and wonder of space.

My son, Stephen, 5, dressed as an astronaut for Halloween, which I can only attribute to the space shuttle book. He already understands the thrill of space exploration.



This 10-month old immature eagle weighs in at about 9 pounds.

Photo by JOE ONDEK

## Eagle

From front page

He explained that the area is broken into two parts, APG and the Susquehanna River, where APG birds originate. He added that birds fly to water and fish, but a good portion of them come back. This is also the traditional survey route assigned to APG by MDDNR.

He also noted that now APG birds are moving out further looking for nests.

According to Pottie, in 1983, three nest sights were spotted and now there are 50.

Pottie concluded by adding that APG is reaching its caring capacity and can't handle many more nests. He said that bald eagles will continue to nest in this area but due to inadequate land and increasing numbers, birds have already started nesting in adjoining areas. They come back to APG as a prime food source and a place to roost but nest nearby.

A sign of the success for the program is when APG is no longer the only spot where eagles nest.

"The hope is that someday our national symbol will be as common as a crow," Pottie said.

## CAC meeting focuses on child's play

**Yvonne Johnson**  
APG News

The January meeting of APG representatives to the Community Action Council yielded a variety of information with the main focus on the installation playground modification program presented by Bert Scott, director of the Directorate of Installation Operation.

Scott said the program objective is to reduce maintenance costs, centralize equipment and increase safety.

"Currently, with 33 playgrounds with safety deficiencies, it's hard to maintain them with the lack of funds we have for maintenance," Scott said.

He said the plan is to complete construction of super playgrounds, complete smaller playgrounds in remote areas and establish joint use of youth services playgrounds.

"Super playgrounds consist of larger sites with flexibility for future expansion for kids ages 1 to 5 and 5 to 12," he added.

The preferred sites for these super playgrounds include Bayside Village, Patriot Village, New Chesapeake Gardens, Skippers Point and the Edgewood Area Youth

Center.

"The objective is that no one has to walk more than eight minutes to get to a playground," Scott said.

### Employment Readiness

Marilyn Howard, Army Community Service Employment Readiness, briefed on supporting family members in regard to family relocation. Assisted by Fred Posadas, ACS, Howard explained that the office sends out information to those leaving quarters and those being assigned quarters.

"We encourage family members to visit ACS and check out the programs we have to fulfill their needs," Howard said.

### Roundtable discussion

Attendees included representatives from post organizations, units and housing areas. During the roundtable discussion housing area representatives raised the following issues:

#### Austin Road

Residents asked if they may

power wash their houses on a self-help basis.

Response: Power washers are available at the Re-Nu-It Centers.

#### Patriot Village-East

Residents are advised that if snow removal equipment operators cannot drive up the cul-de-sac safely without damaging vehicles parked on the street, that street will be skipped and remain uncleared. Residents should not park on the street when snowfall is anticipated.

#### Patriot Village-West

Delivery of the APG News at the mailboxes has become a problem as papers get wet and blown into storm drains. Consideration should be given to discontinuing delivery since the paper is available at the commissary and exchange.

Response: Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander responded that she still would like to see the papers delivered to family housing.

#### Bayside Village

Residents have expressed concerns about needed repairs and reporting speeding dri-

vers. Response: To call in a service order, call 410-306-1400 in the Aberdeen Area and 410-436-3731 in the Edgewood Area.

To contact the police desk to report speeders, call 410-306-0564/0565 in the AA and 410-436-2222/2125 in the EA.

### Closing comments

During closing comments, Mark said APG may be moved up on the priority list to the FY 05/06 budget regarding the Residential Communitiers Initiatives, or RCI.

"I challenge you to keep raising housing issues," Mark said. "We will keep you informed as more information on RCI becomes available."

About privatization, she added, "The Army has said, 'If you are not a war fighter - you will be privatized.'"

"Privatization will be more evident in everything we do."

The next Community Action Council meeting is Feb. 20, 1:30 p.m. in the Edgewood Area Conference Center, building E-4810, across from the Edgewood Area Chapel.